

21. A self-assisting post surgical device for patients that have had some type of surgery which affects the abdominal region which allows them to gradually raise themselves from a supine position to a sitting position and vice-versa, said device comprising

a first gripping section having a series of individual members flexibly linked together so as to allow a user to haul himself or herself up to a sitting position by grasping, consecutively, said individual members and pulling oneself upright,

a second section of said device having an adjustable portion thereof whereby the device may be anchored on a patient's bed or portions thereof to provide a firm attachment, and said second section being flexibly attached to said first gripping section.

said first gripping section comprising a series of hand pieces linked together by a strap means, said member affixed to said strap means by securing a fold section on said strap means,

22. A device as in claim 21 wherein each said member is a solid, generally cylindrical portion with a non-slip gripping surface sleeved thereon or coated thereon, said gripping surface being compressible by the hands of a user so as to allow a firm grip.

23. A device as in claim 21 wherein said members are made of a thermoplastic elastomer compound.

24. A device as in claim 23 wherein said device includes identical members linked together by the second section of the device which comprises a polypropylene or nylon webbing strap.

25. A device as in claim 21 wherein said second section of said device comprises a Nylon strap which can be looped around portions of a patient's bed to secure said device thereto.

26. A device as in claim 25 wherein said strap has a male and female buckle system for securing it around the end portion of a bed.

27. A device as in claim 26 and including a plastic snap buckle having an adjustment means thereon on said strap so the length of said strap may be adjusted and be quickly detached from the portion of a bed.

28. A medical aid for assisting users who do not have the abdominal strength to raise themselves from a supine position or vice-versa, said aid comprising

a first portion having a series of hand grip members connected one to the other in series, said connected allowing for twisting movement and to provide a user with means to pull said aid, grip by grip, toward themselves, to raise themselves,

a second portion having a strap portion adapted to be secured to a bed or other permanent structure so as to anchor one end of the aid against movement, thereby allowing the gradual pulling of said grip members by a user to raise said user to a sitting or standing position or vice-versa,

said hand grip members comprising a series of identical cylindrical members which have apertures at each end designed to accommodate the strap portion of said second portion and to affix each said member to said strap portion.

29. An aid as in claim 28 wherein said grip members are elongated and have a thermoplastic elastomer gripping surface thereon so as to allow the user to maintain a grip thereon without slipping off.

30. An aid as in claim 29 wherein said grip member surfaces are compactable foam designed to prevent slipping by a user's hand and are made of Dynaflex ® TPE compound or Santoprene rubber 111-35 material.